

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

National Application No

PC 1/GB 02/01835

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B24C7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B24C F16K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 99 14015 A (MILLER) 25 March 1999 (1999-03-25) cited in the application page 1, line 1-3 page 14, line 32 -page 15, line 33; figures 6,10,11	1-5,7, 13,14
A		9,11,12
Y	EP 0 884 509 A (KYOCERA CORP.) 16 December 1998 (1998-12-16) abstract page 1, line 1-7 page 1, column 50-53 page 6, column 12-18; figures 1,2 --- -/--	1-5,7, 13,14

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 September 2002

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04/10/2002

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PCT/GB 02/01835

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 186 393 A (YIE) 16 February 1993 (1993-02-16) column 2, line 54-58 column 5, line 14-16; figures 12,13 -----	1,4,9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/GB 02/01835

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9914015	A	25-03-1999	EP 0938399 A1	01-09-1999
			WO 9914015 A1	25-03-1999
			JP 2001505139 T	17-04-2001
			US 6276993 B1	21-08-2001
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			US 5297777 A	29-03-1994
			US 5524821 A	11-06-1996
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			US 5241986 A	07-09-1993